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6/24/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

E. L. E. KLUTH ET AL.

Serial No. 09/668,049

Filed: September 21, 2000

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD
FOR PROTECTING SENSORS
AND CABLES IN HOSTILE
ENVIRONMENTS

GROUP ART UNIT 2873

EXAMINER: TRA, TUYEN Q.

P.O. Box 6006
San Ramon, CA 94583-0806

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed March 22, 2002, for which a shortened statutory period for response of thirty (30) days was set, making this response due by April 22, 2002.

In the Office Action of March 22, 2002, restriction has been required between:

I hereby certify that I have a reasonable basis for believing that this correspondence will be deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C. 20231, on May 22, 2002

Date of Deposit

Cristina V. Smith
Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Rep

Signature

5/2/02
Date

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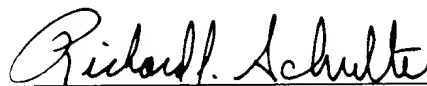
- I. Claims 1-14 and 15, drawn to a sensor located in a tubing, the section of the tubing containing the sensor being sealable and classified in Class 73, subclass 152.26; and
- II. Claims 2-13 and 16-20 drawn to a sensor or sensors isolated from the fluid to be sensed by one or more barriers, classified in Class 73, subclass 866.5.

Applicants believe that while the above inventions are patentably distinct from one another, a single search in Class 73 relating to the area of sensors protected from hostile environments may encompass the prior art applicable to these inventions. In the event the Examiner declines to search and consider these inventions together, Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, to prosecute in this application Group II, Claims 2-13 and 16-20, and reserves the right to file a divisional application on Claims 1-14 and 15.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the restriction requirement as a comprehensive search for these inventions would be without serious burden.

Accompanying is a request for one month extension of time to respond to this Office Action.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard J. Schulte
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RJS:cs
Enclosure

May 22, 2002